of grooves or recess;

providing a layer of non-twisted linear reinforcing elements;

coating the non-twisted linear reinforcing elements with a coating of a resin to form a reinforcement having a percentage ratio by weight of resin to the non-twisted linear reinforcing elements of at most 50:50;

applying the non-twisted linear reinforcing elements coated with the resin to the rear face of the slab; [inserting a reinforcing layer between the coated non-twisted linear reinforcing elements and the rear face of the flab of stone material;] and

then hardening of the resin to combine the hardened resin with the rear face of the slab;[,]

whereby to form a reinforcing layer consisting of the hardened resin coated non-linear reinforcing elements on the rear face of the slab of stone material.

Cancel claims 7 to 13 without prejudice.

Rewrite claim 16 as follows:

16. (Amended) The process according to claim [15] 1, wherein hardening of the resin is performed by the step selected from the group consisting of adding a catalyst to the resin, application of heat to the resin, or combination of the addition of a catalyst and heat.

Rewrite claim 17 as follows:

17. (Amended) The process according to claim 21 [1], wherein the linear reinforcing [members] elements comprise four 4800 TEX (19.6 g/m) glass threads laid down within grooves formed in the slabs having a dimension of 3 to 4 mm in depth.

Rewrite claim 21 as follows:

21. (Amended) A process for producing a reinforced slab of products made of stone material, having a reinforcement which includes a hardened resin combined with [a] the rear face of the slab, comprising:

providing a slab of stone material having a rear substantially smooth face and provided with grooves or recesses formed on the rear face of the slab [providing] housing [a layer of] non-twisted linear [glass] reinforcing elements coated with a hardenable resin to anchor, upon being hardened, the reinforcing elements within [applied to the said rear face in] said grooves or recesses, the percentage ratio by weight of resin to the non-twisted linear reinforcing elements being of at most 50:50;

providing a layer of non-twisted linear [glass] reinforcing elements coated with a [coating of a] hardenable resin to form a reinforcement having a percentage ratio by weight of resin to the non-twisted linear reinforcing elements of at most 50:50;

applying said layer to the rear face of the slab, whereby the grooves containing the reinforcing elements anchored by the hardened resin are sealingly

closed by said layer; and

hardening of the resin.

C3

Rewrite claim 22 as follows:

The process according to claim 21, wherein said layer of non-twisted linear elements consists of glass strands.

Rewrite claim 26 as follows:

C4

26. The process according to claim 21, including inserting further linear reinforcing elements between said reinforcement [layer] and the rear face of the slab.

Cancel claim 28 without prejudice.

Rewrite claim 29 as follows:

C5

29. (Amended) The process according to claim 21 [28], wherein said grooves or recesses form a grid.